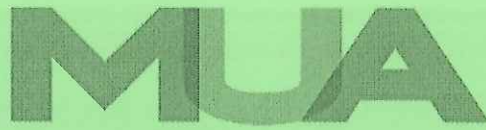


The
Management
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POST GRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

MASTER OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

MDS511: NETWORKING FOR POLICY CHANGE

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER 2017

DURATION: 3 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 60

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** writes on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **FOUR (4)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **TWO** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **30 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided

QUESTION ONE

Read the following case study and answer the following questions

DEMYSTIFYING NETWORKING FOR POLICY CHANGE

Networking is important for a variety of reasons, many of which already have been mentioned above. At both the individual and collective level, networking is a strategy of empowerment. As a result of networking, organizations and individuals are able to apply political pressure at the local and global level in support of their goals. Networking aids in organizing and mobilization, empowers civil society groups, and enables poor and powerless individuals to have a stronger voice in the processes of decision-making.

Networks also help to unite people at the local level with people at the global level as they work toward their shared goals. Because networks offer opportunities for increased communication, they have the potential to become a sort of international civil society out of which can emerge different kinds of strategies and projects. Strong networkers need to be able to develop rapport with a wide variety of people. Typically they have the respect and trust of their fellow citizens so that others listen to them. They demonstrate sincere concern and curiosity and actively seek out information and knowledge.

Public opinion could also help set the pace of reform. Although policy and politics are usually associated with government, there are four spheres in which parties involved may be required to advocate and therefore be involved in political action (Leavitt and Mason 1998): 1) Workplace: influencing workplace policy, procedures, funding allocation decisions, and practice models. 2) Government: influencing local, state and national policy and legislation. 3) Professional: organizations: influencing the setting of standards, licensure, and credentialing. 4) Community: influencing through engagement in community activities such as environmental groups, child care groups, etc.

Effective government relations require an understanding of how government works and what drives government decision-making. Modern democratic governance –

imposing overall direction or control on the allocation of valued resources – often bears little resemblance to traditional Weberian notions of hierarchy or neoconservative ideas of delivering public services through private markets.

The term policy network connotes ‘a cluster of actors, each of which has an interest, or “stake” in a given...policy sector and the capacity to help determine policy success or failure’ a growing number of studies use the network concept as a metaphor describing the complexity of social and political life, but they have neither explained why private and public actors are mutually dependent, whether their dependency is restricted to the boundaries of specific subsystems and how this dependency affects public decision-making, nor generated testable hypotheses regarding the causal importance of policy networks for public decision making.

Therefore, no ‘one-size-fits-all’ policy exists. However, this has not stopped some scholars from trying to come up with the most important factors for certain policy areas. Successful implementation ought to ensure coherence, stability, peer support, training, and engagement. However, in order to be able to describe and understand the interconnection between the formal and informal network, it is necessary first of all to acknowledge the existence of the informal network as a force to be reckoned with.

Required:

- a) As an expert you are asked to advice by explaining the adverse effects of the informal networks that may lead to counterproductive behavior
(8 Marks)
- b) Explain the core principles of leading to network mindset that can successfully influence policy changes
(6 Marks)
- c) Identify and explain key features that characterize successful global public policy networks
(5 Marks)
- d) Citizen patrols address a wide range of problems, function in a variety of neighborhoods, and can be distinguished along several dimensions. Explain five such dimensions
(5 Marks)
- e) Explain six similar functions that international policy networks can fulfill
(6 Marks)

QUESTIONS TWO

- a) Networks can be useful and laden with a focus on functions. Show how networks can help researchers influence policy processes in the Kenya (10 Marks)
- b) The sociological characteristics of the professions are an important aspect of policy change and effective network. Explain at least some 5 of the characteristics (5 Marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Propose five basic scenarios for neighborhood-based partnership interventions that can be adopted in your country targeted on the domains like the individual, the family, the school and associated peers, and the community. (10 Marks)
- b) International organizations can help to create and sustain global public policy networks. Explain various roles through which this can be done (5 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Provide an explanation of six dimensions which should be taken into consideration for a successful policy change in a developing country like Kenya. (12 Marks)
- b) Explain four ways individuals demonstrate strong psychological sense of community (PSC) concept toward a particular referent group? (3 Marks)